



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2000

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
(202)289-6400

Atlantic States Schedule Striped Bass Amendment 6 PID Public Meetings

Washington, D.C. – Atlantic coastal states from Maine through North Carolina have finalized the details of their public meetings to gather input on the Public Information Document (PID) for Amendment 6 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Striped. The Striped Bass Management Board will review the public comment received through written correspondence and at state public meetings at its next meeting on June 8, 2000 in Portland, Maine. The Board will use this input to develop a draft amendment to the FMP with the preferred management measures identified for another round of public review and comment. Following that, the Board will specify the management measures to be included in the new amendment. The details of the state information meetings follow.

May 15, 2000 (6:00 PM)

Potomac River Fisheries Commission
222 Taylor Street
Colonial Beach, Virginia
Contact: A.C. Carpenter, (804)224-7148

May 17, 2000 (7:00 PM)

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Bayerischer-Volkfest Verein (Bavarian Club)
9940 Haldeman Avenue
Northeast Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Contact: Dick Snyder, (814)359-5177

May 18, 2000 (6:30 PM)

New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife
Ocean County Administration Building
101 Hooper Avenue, Room 119
Toms River, New Jersey
Contact: Bruce Freeman, (609)292-2083

May 22, 2000 (6:30 PM)

Maine Department of Marine Resources
Sheraton South Portland Hotel
363 Maine Mall Road
South Portland, Maine
Contact: Lew Flagg, (207)624-6548

May 16, 2000 (7:30 PM)

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Control Auditorium
89 Kings Highway
Dover, Delaware
Contact: Charlie Lesser, (302)739-3441

May 17, 2000 (6:30 PM)

New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife
Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cape May
355 Courthouse-South Dennis Road
Route 657/South Dennisville Road
Cape May Courthouse, New Jersey
Contact: Bruce Freeman, (609)292-2083

May 18, 2000 (6:30 PM)

North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
Manteo Town Hall
407 Budleigh Street
Manteo, North Carolina
Contact: Harrel Johnson, (252)264-3911

May 23, 2000 (6:30 PM)

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Building, Room C-1
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland
Contact: Pete Jensen, (410)260-8261

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

1444 Eye Street, N.W. -- Sixth Floor -- Washington, D.C. 20005
(202)289-6400 (phone) (202)289-6051 (fax)
www.asmf.org

PR00-18

May 23, 2000 (7:00 PM)

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Needham High School
609 Webster Street
Needham, Massachusetts
Contact: Paul Diodati, (617)626-1531

May 24, 2000 (7:00 PM)

New Hampshire Fish and Game
Urban Forestry Center
Elwyn Road
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
Contact: John Nelson, (603)868-1096

May 25, 2000 (7:00 PM)

Connecticut Dept. of Environmental Protection
Marine Headquarters
333 Ferry Road
Old Lyme, Connecticut
Contact: Ernie Beckwith, (860)434-6043

May 25, 2000 (6:30 PM)

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Talbot County Public Library
100 West Dover Street
Easton, Maryland
Contact: Pete Jensen, (410)260-8261

May 31, 2000 (7:00 PM)

New Hampshire Fish and Game
2 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire
Contact: John Nelson, (603)868-1096

May 24, 2000 (7:00 PM)

Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Fourth Floor Conference Room
2600 Washington Avenue
Newport News, Virginia
Contact: Jack Travelstead, (757)247-2247

May 24, 2000 (6:00 PM)

Rhode Island Department of Environmental
Management, Third Floor Cafeteria
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island
Contact: Dick Sisson, (401)789-3094

May 25, 2000 (7:00 PM)

Maine Department of Marine Resources
Ellsworth Holiday Inn
215 High Street
Ellsworth, Maine
Lew Flagg, (207)624-6548

May 30, 2000 (7:30PM)

New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation
State University of New York at Stonybrook
Student Activities Center
Nicholls Road
Stonybrook, New York
Contact: Vic Vecchio, (631)444-0476

June 1, 2000 (7:30 PM)

New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Central Hudson Auditorium
Kingston, New York
Contact: Andy Kahnle, (914)256-3072

NOTE: The State of New Jersey will also be scheduling a third public information meeting. For more details on this meeting, please contact Bruce Freeman at (609)292-2083.

The purpose of the PID is to seek public input on the long-term management of Atlantic coast striped bass stocks. Currently, striped bass is managed under Amendment 5 to the Interstate FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass, which was developed to provide overall guidance and policy to the management of a recovered striped bass resource. Its goals include: preventing overfishing; maintaining a sustainable spawning stock biomass; achieving equitable management measures among jurisdictions; and identifying critical habitats. Over the last several years, a series of addenda have been developed and implemented to detail annual management measures. This process has resulted in increasing frustration on the part of fishery managers, scientists and fishermen – frustration based on not only the lack of consistency in state management measures from year to year, but also the desire for an improved quality fishery, and concerns about increased fishing pressure on larger striped bass. Amendment 6 is being developed to address the above concerns, as well as other long-term scientific, management and policy issues.

Copies of the Striped Bass PID can be obtained by either contacting Vanessa Jones, Administrative Assistant, at (202) 289-6400, or via the Commission's webpage under "Public Input" at www.asmf.org. **Public comment will be accepted until June 1, 2000.** Comments should be forwarded to Robert Beal, Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at 1444 Eye Street, N.W., Sixth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005; (202)289-6051 (fax). For more information, please contact Robert Beal at (202) 289-6400, ext. 318.